



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/753,470	01/03/2001	Dennis Michael Carney	IBMN.016US01(0516)	1821

7590 04/10/2006
Chambliss, Bahner & Stophel, P.C.
1000 Tallan Building
Two Union Square
Chattanooga, TN 37402

EXAMINER

RAHIMI, IRAJ A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 04/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/753,470

Applicant(s)

CARNEY ET AL.

Examiner

(Iraj) Alan Rahimi

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 January 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17, 37-57 and 77-81 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 18-36 and 58-76 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 3 January 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. In papers filed on March 25, 2006 applicant amended claims 1, 9, 14, 18, 41, 49, 58 and 81. Applicant also corrected Fig. 1 and overcome the 112 rejection.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 41 have been considered but are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Gase fails to disclose or suggest the limitations of the amended claim. Examiner disagrees. Gase discloses a network printer that includes a server procedure, which enables transfer of files from the network printer over the network, and a browser procedure which enables retrieval of files from client processor over the network. Server procedure provides a print job management function for printer 14. A job queue is established for received print jobs. Job queue is managed by the queue manager which maintains status data and controls the position of each of the URL's listed on job queue. Client processor provides the URL to the printer. Examiner considers combination of the functions performed by the server procedure and queue manager to serve the function of job monitor as now claimed in claim 1. Job monitor as now claimed manages the attributes and status information associated with each print job and so does the server procedure and the queue manager. As indicated in Fig. 3, job list provides repository of attributes and status for each print job. Printer Home Page as shown in Fig. 2 serves as the interface. Thus meeting all the claim limitations.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

4. Claims 1-8, 10-17, 37-48, 50-57 and 77-81 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gase (US patent 6,184,996).

Regarding claim 1, Gase discloses a method for providing printer recognition and management of a print job entity, comprising:

establishing a repository of attributes and status information associated with each print job that passes through a printer system (column 3, lines 60-62); and

providing an interface to a plurality of components to allow access to the attributes and status information in the repository by the plurality of components (column 3, lines 52-58); and

establishing a job monitor for managing the repository of attributes and status information associated with each print jobs for responding to a call by a printer component and for managing interactions between printer components in order to control the processing of the job (column 3, lines 12-67).

Regarding claim 2, Gase discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the interface comprises at least one of a Web Page channel, a multiplexer to manage the routing of jobs to the print engine and a spooler, a job control function interface, a pipeline interface, an operations panel interface and a pull print interface (column 3, lines 24-30).

Regarding claim 3, Gase discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising providing by the interface an ability for components to process a job according to requirements of the component and reporting job attributes and processing status of the job for common access by other components (column 4, lines 1-20).

Regarding 4, Gase discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising providing by the interface access to maintained job variable to the components (column 4, lines 9-20).

Regarding claim 5, Gase discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising providing by the interface to a component access to common variables, the components presenting job attributes or status to the interface (column 3, lines 12-23).

Art Unit: 2625

Regarding claim 6, Gase discloses the method of claim 5 wherein the attributes are presented according to requirements dictated by the interface (column 3, lines 12-23).

Regarding claim 7, Gase discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the interface provides the ability for components to create job entries, obtain and set job attributes, manipulate the state and status of jobs in the system, and obtain job ordering information pertinent to the calling component (column 3, lines 24-36 & 59-63).

Regarding claim 8, Gase discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the repository provides a global view of jobs within the printer, the global view includes an actively printing job, jobs in the process of being spooled, jobs on the spool queue, and jobs on the pull print queue (Fig. 3).

Regarding claim 10, Gase discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the interface cancels jobs (Fig. 4).

Regarding claim 11, Gase discloses the method of claim 10 wherein a cancelled job comprises a current job (Fig. 4).

Regarding claim 12, Gase discloses the method of claim 10 wherein a cancelled job comprises a job having a selected attribute. As discloses in column 3, line 63, each job has set of attributes. It is inherent in Gase that when the job is cancelled, it includes cancellation of all attributes of the job.

Regarding claim 13, Gase discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising providing logical views to obtain a next job to be processed by a component and to obtain a list of all jobs in the order that they are processed (column 4, lines 9-20).

Regarding claim 14, Gase discloses the method of claim 1 further comprises obtaining a Job ID, performing a query for attributes of a job, updating job attributes, canceling jobs, providing logical views of a job, handling printer events, getting attributes of the printer and setting printer attributes by the job monitor. (column 3, lines 24-67 and column 4, lines 1-49).

Regarding claim 15, Gase discloses the method of claim 14 wherein the attributes are updated through the job monitor (column 3, lines 32-37). Rearranging the listed URL is considered to be a form of updating.

Regarding claim 16, Gase discloses the method of claim 14 wherein the job monitor provides the ability for any component to set job attributes (column 4, lines 1-19).

Regarding claim 17, Gase discloses the method of claim 14 wherein the job monitor uses job states to control the flow of jobs (column 4, lines 20-37).

Regarding claim 37, Gase discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising providing an event registration to provide a methodology for a controller to indicate events to a job

Art Unit: 2625

monitor, wherein the Job Monitor serves as the system focal point for tracking job related events as they occur during the course of an entire print process (column 4, lines 1-9).

Regarding claim 38, Gase discloses the method of claim 37 further comprising defining events for the job monitor (column 4, lines 9-19).

Regarding claim 39, Gase discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising providing a job monitor for addressing job processing complexity by viewing a job on a higher conceptual plane rather than managing a collection of attributes and status variables that is unique for each data channel (column 3, lines 52-58).

Regarding claim 40, Gase discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising providing a job monitor for providing a common method of accessing the variables associated with a job for the components (column 3, lines 59-67).

Regarding claims 41-48 and 50-57, arguments analogous to those presented for claim 1-8 and 10-17, are presented respectively.

Regarding claims 77-80, arguments analogous to those presented for claim 37-40, are presented respectively.

Regarding claim 81, arguments analogous to those presented for claim 1, are presented.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claim 18-36, 58-76 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

6. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact Information

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to (Iraq) Alan Rahimi whose telephone number is 571-272-7411. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 8:00 - 4:30.


Art Unit: 2625

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Moore can be reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2600.

AR

Alan Rahimi
March 29, 2006


TWYLER LAMB
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Supervisory Patent